The aim and purpose of the Women's Alliance was discussed and explained at this metting, a Constitution was briefly outlined, and all present promised to extoll the merits of this new organization amongst the women of their various home towns. It became apparent (for various reasons) that it would be difficult for Antanina Jakaitis to continue as chairman of the committee, and so the ground work was entrusted to the women from Chicago with Miss U. Jokubauskas as Chairman and Miss M. Gurinskas as Secretary. Having completed the initial formalities the work began; various societies were contacted, write-ups appeared in the press, and various speaking programs commenced.

An invitation was issued to all interested women to attend an open meeting which was held November 17, 1914, in Providence of God Parish hall, Chicago, Ill. Those attending included delegates from some societies and a goodly number of individual women. After much discourse by the committee and their guests, it was concluded the idea was too new, that the established societies were somewhat suspicious of such a project, and that nothing would be achieved at this level. It was realized that the roots must take hold in individual women, who in turn would establish the various chapters.

The original steering committee formed the first chapter of the Women's Alliance in St. George's Parish, Chicago, Illinois. Mrs. Antoinette Nauseda was president of Chapter 1 for ten years. It was voted to call the founding convention at Chicago, Illinois, December 13, 1914, at St. George's Church Hall.

To this founding convention there arrived from Cicero, Ill., a fully organized chapter, under the leadership of Miss V. Stalilionis and Miss A. Nausėdas, who were eagerly awaiting the formation of a central or national committee (Home Office, if you will) to which they could pay their dues. There were other women attending also, who paid their dues at this time. Those participating numbered about thirty. This convention formally adopted as the organization's name — The American Lithuanian Roman Catholic Women's Alliance. The previously prepared constitution was approved and national officers elected: president — Miss U. Jokubauskas; vice-president — Mrs. F. (Macijauskas) Šatas; secretary — Miss M. Gurinskas; assistant secretary — Miss F. Nutautas; treasurer — Mrs. A. Nauseda; trustees — Miss V. Stalilionis, Miss A. Nausedas and Mrs. K. Varanavičius; Medical Examiner — Dr. Susana Šlakis; Spiritual Director — Rev. F. Kemesis.

After completing the most difficult task — laying the foundation of this infant organization, two chapters were instituted, the first in St. George's Parish, Chicago, Ill., the second in Cicero, Ill. The good word was spreading far and wide amongst the Lithuanian parishes and new chapters were being formed — the first four in Chicago, Ill., the fifth and sixth in Worcester, Massachusetts, where the "dream" first saw the light of day.

The number of chapters was increasing so rapidly, the national officers voted not to wait a full year, following the founding convention, but to call the first Alliance convention for June 29-30, 1915. By convention time there were 15 chapters with approximately 400 members.

The A.L.R.C. Women's Alliance was built on a firm foundation and, thanks to that, the organization is growing and flourishing. Honor and

glory to all the Women's Alliance originators, founders, charter members and all the untiring workers!

Thus ends the history of the founding of the American Lithuanian Roman Catholic Women's Alliance.

FIRST CONVENTION

The first convention was held June 29-30, 1915, at Chicago, Ill., St. George's Parish Hall. Chapters represented — 15. Balance in the general fund — $541.80; the magazine fund — $154.80

This convention considered the publishing of a magazine. Contributions at convention time totaled $191.74. It was suggested that chapters donate one third of each $25.00 net profit realized from contucted affairs, toward the magazine fund.

It was voted on to make an A.L.R.C. Women's Alliance seal.

In the absence of Spiritual Advisor Rev. F. Kemesis, wholehearted gratitude was expressed to Rev. Ignatius Albavicius, then pastor of St. George's Church, for his sincere cooperation, encouragement and for substituting as Spiritual Director for the first convention. At present, Rt. Rev. Msgr. Ignatius Albavicius is pastor of St. Anthony's Church, Cicero, Illinois.

An expense fund was also established: each member was to pay $.25.

Exhibition of handcraft was proposed for 1916.

Supreme officers: Spiritual Director — Rev. F. Kemėšis; pres. — Mrs. M. Juška; vice-pres. — Miss F. Nutautas; secr. — Miss M. Gurinskas; treas. — Mrs. A. Nausėda; trustees — Miss A. Nausėdas and Mrs. F. (Macijauskąs) Šatas.

Note was made at this convention of the absence of Miss U. Jokubauskas, who was undergoing a long convalescence after serious illness.

SECOND CONVENTION

Boston, Massachusetts was the site of the second convention — July 5-6, 1916. Delegates attending — 23. There now were 25 chapters with a total membership of 1,039.

It was voted to publish a magazine, "Moterų Dirva" (Women's Field); first editor Miss U. Jokubauskas. The first issue appeared in October, 1916.

Supreme officers: Spiritual Director — Rev. F. Kemėšis; pres. — Mrs. U. Gudas; vice-pres. — Miss M. Gurinskas; 2nd vice-pres. — Miss A. Migauskas; secr. — Miss A. Stalionis; treas. — Mrs. Nausėda; trustees — Mrs. M. Juška and Miss U. Jokubauskas; Medical Examiner — Dr. Susana Šlakis; Delegate to "Tautos Taryba" — Mrs. A. Nausėda.

THIRD CONVENTION

The third annual convention was called to order at Pittsburgh, Pa., July 9-10, 1917, with 20 delegates registered.

Statistics: 37 chapters; membership 1,307; balance of combined funds $1,220.56.